

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/676,172

Examiner

Alonzo Chambliss

Applicant(s)

BURRELL ET AL.

Art Unit

2814

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 5/2/07 and the examiner's amendment attached hereto.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-7, 21 and 23-35.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on 5/2/07 has been fully considered and made of record in the instant application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Leslie S. Szivos on June 8, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN CLAIMS:

In claim 1, line 2, delete " the steps of ";

In claim 1, line 4, after " surface portion " insert – that is not protected by a passivation stack --;

In claim 1, line 12, after " deposition of Au " insert -- , wherein said Ni/Au metallization and said metallic cap do not extend onto an upper surface of said passivation stack --;

In claim 2, line 2, delete " an overlaying " and insert instead -- said --;

In claim 5, line 2, delete " formed " and insert instead -- of said passivation stack located --;

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In claim 27, line 1, delete " the steps of ";

In claim 27, line 3, after " surface portion " insert – that is not protected by a passivation stack --;

In claim 1, line 11, after " deposition of Au " insert -- , wherein said Ni/Au metallization and said metallic cap do not extend onto an upper surface of said passivation stack --.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is a statement of reason for the indication of allowance subject matter: the prior art of record does not teach or suggest the combination of a wire bond pad having an exposed surface portion that is not protected by a passivation stack with a clean/pretreatment step on the an Al layer on the bond pad. A Ni/Au metallization on the Al layer and the metallic cap formed by the Ni/Au layer does not extend onto an upper surface of the passivation stack along with the other limitations in claim 1.

A wire bond pad having an exposed surface portion that is not protected by a passivation stack with a clean/pretreatment step on the Ti layer on the bond pad. A Ni/Au metallization on the Ti layer and the metallic cap formed by the Ni/Au layer does not extend onto an upper surface of the passivation stack along with the other limitations in claim 27.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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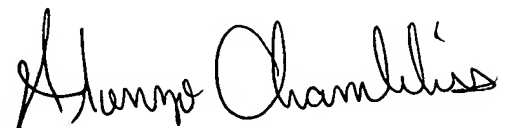
accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning the communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alonzo Chambliss whose telephone number is (571) 272-1927.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-7956.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PMR only. For more information about the PMR system see <http://pair-dkect.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PMR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or EBC_Support@uspto.gov.

AC/June 9, 2007



Alonzo Chambliss
Primary Patent Examiner
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